DEPARTMENT EDUCATION ALBERTA
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SUPPLEMENT TO CANADIAN DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA
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DEPARTMENT
EDUCATION ALBERTA

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Prepared by

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

For Use in the Schools of the
Province of Alberta

CURR HIST

Foreword

Canadian Democracy in Action has been written essentially for the schools of Ontario and is not entirely adequate for use in Alberta schools. Economic and political opinion, and the illustrative examples of local government are based on the institutions and traditional practice and theory of Ontario. Since these things differ from province to province, this supplement has been prepared to adjust this study of government, where a wide divergence of practice and thought obtains, to the procedure and theory of Alberta.

The Canadian student must know and understand the structure and function of local government in order to appreciate and comprehend the larger fabrics of federalism, the British Commonwealth of Nations, and International organizations. The good Alberta citizen is a loyal Canadian and a British subject.

The supplementary material on the Alberta courts and Alberta municipal government will largely replace those sections of the text to which it refers. Other data should be studied in conjunction with the corresponding material in the text, in order to understand the provincial viewpoint.

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Contents

1. Comparative list of Federal and Alberta Provincial Cabinets. (See page 33 of text.)
2. Simplified Organization Chart for the Alberta Provincial Department of Lands and Mines. (See Page 37 of text.)
3. Who Can Vote in Alberta. (See page 44 of text.)
4. A Non-Party Organization.
5. An Election Proclamation for Alberta. (See page 45 of text.)
6. Democracy and Confederation.
7. An Alberta Application for Search and A Search Warrant. (See page 73 of text.)
8. The Courts of Alberta. (See pages 78-79 of text.)
9. Rural and Urban Municipal Government in Alberta. (See pages 89-90 of text.)
10. A Modern Canadian Theory of Paying Our Way (See chapter VIII of text.)

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Compare with the List on Page 33 of the Text:

CHANGING CABINETS AND CHANGING NEEDS

Like the Cabinet of Ontario, it can be seen by this comparative list of Dominion and Alberta Cabinets that the Alberta Cabinet has also grown to meet the increasing burden of administration which our modern society demands.

DOMINION, 1905

Premier and President of the Council
Minister of Justice
Minister of Finance
Minister of Customs
Minister of Inland Revenue
Minister of Militia and Defence
Minister of Trade and Commerce
Minister of Marine, Fisheries, and Naval Service
Minister of Public Works
Minister of Agriculture
Secretary of State and Minister of Mines
Minister of Interior
Postmaster-General
Minister of Railways and Canals
1 Minister without Portfolio

ALBERTA, 1905

Premier and Provincial Treasurer
Minister of Education
Attorney General
Provincial Secretary and Minister of Agriculture
Minister of Public Works

DOMINION, 1914

Premier and President of the Council
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Minister of Finance
Minister of Customs
Minister of Inland Revenue
Minister of Militia and Defence
Minister of Trade and Commerce
Minister of Marine, Fisheries, and Naval Service
Minister of Public Works
Minister of Agriculture
Secretary of State and Minister of Mines
Minister of Interior
Postmaster-General
Minister of Railways and Canals
Minister of Labour
3 Ministers without Portfolio

ALBERTA, 1914

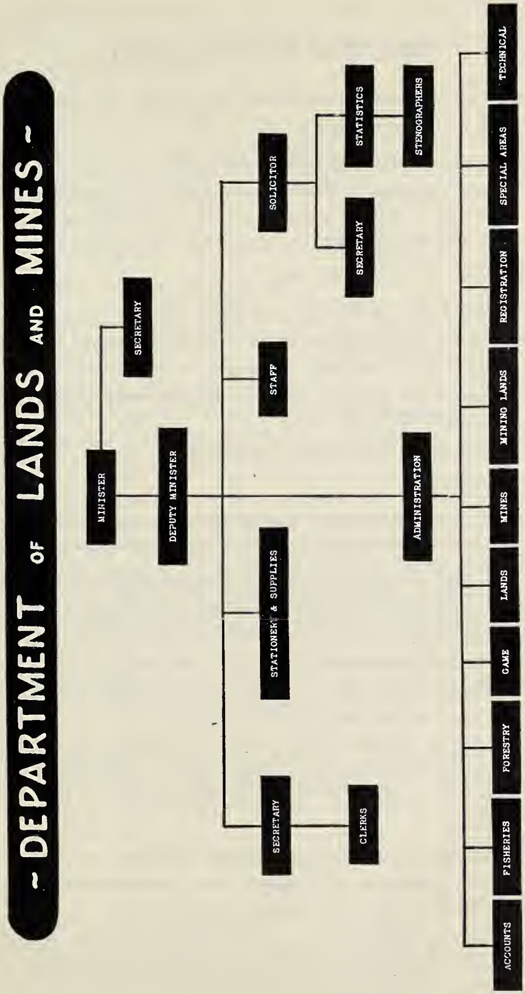
Premier
Minister of Telephones and Railways
Minister of Public Works
Provincial Treasurer
Attorney General
Minister of Agriculture
Provincial Secretary
Minister of Education
Minister of Municipal Affairs

DOMINION, 1946

Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council, Secretary of State for External Affairs
Minister of Justice and Attorney General for Canada
Minister of Finance
Minister of National Revenue
Minister of National Defence
Minister of National Defence for Air
Minister of National Defence for Naval Services
Minister of Trade and Commerce
Minister of Public Works
Minister of Fisheries
Minister of Agriculture
Secretary of State
Minister of Mines and Resources
Postmaster-General
Minister of Transport
Minister of Labour
Minister of Munitions and Supply
Minister of National War Services
Minister of Veterans' Affairs
Minister of Reconstruction
Minister of National Health
Minister without Portfolio

ALBERTA, 1946

Premier
Attorney General
Provincial Treasurer
Provincial Secretary
Minister of Education
Minister of Agriculture
Minister of Public Health
Minister of Public Works
Minister of Municipal Affairs
Minister of Telephones and Railways
Minister of Trade and Industry
Minister of Lands and Mines
Minister of Welfare
Minister of Economic Affairs


- DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND MINES -
MINISTER
SECRETARY
DEPUTY MINISTER
SOLICITOR
SECRETARY
STATISTICS
STENOGRAPHERS
STAFF
STATIONERY & SUPPLIES
SECRETARY
CLERKS
ADMINISTRATION
TECHNICAL
SPECIAL AREAS
REGISTRATION
MINING LANDS
MINES
LANDS
GAME
FORESTRY
FISHERIES
ACCOUNTS

This simplified Organization Chart for the Alberta Provincial Department of Lands and Mines, shows the main branches into which the work and responsibilities of this Department are divided and indicates the diversity and volume of this work.

To supplement WHO CAN VOTE IN CANADA on page 44.

WHO CAN VOTE IN ALBERTA

In the Provincial Elections persons may vote who:

1. are British subjects;
2. have reached the age of 19 years;
3. have resided in the Province for 12 months and in the electorial division for 2 months preceding the date of the writ of election.

Persons who may not vote are:

1. judges of supreme and district courts;
2. persons disqualified from voting under an Act relating to corrupt practices;
3. persons in gaol or prison, undergoing punishment for criminal offences;
4. patients in the mental institutes;
5. Indians.

In Municipal Elections the qualifications for a vote differ according to the urban or rural area in which one resides.

In the seven cities in Alberta the qualifications of a voter differ according to the Charter of each individual city but as a general rule all persons over 21 years old qualify.

In towns and villages voters fall into two groups:

1. Persons who are 21 years of age whose names appear on the last revised assessment roll.
2. British subjects who are 21 years of age and who have resided in the town or village for six months immediately preceding the last day of September in the previous year.

In municipal districts voters again fall into two groups:

1. Persons who are 21 years of age whose names appear on the last revised assessment roll.
2. British subjects who have resided in the division in which the election is to be held for a period of six months preceding nomination day, which is the third Saturday in February.

In cities, towns, villages and municipal districts the people are sometimes asked to vote on money by-laws. Only those voters whose names appear on the assessment roll are entitled to vote in these instances.

The assessment roll contains the names of owners, or if the owner is selling his property, the purchaser, of assessable or taxable property. Thus by owning property and paying taxes on that property irrespective of nationality, providing that person is 21 years of age, he is entitled to vote.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT

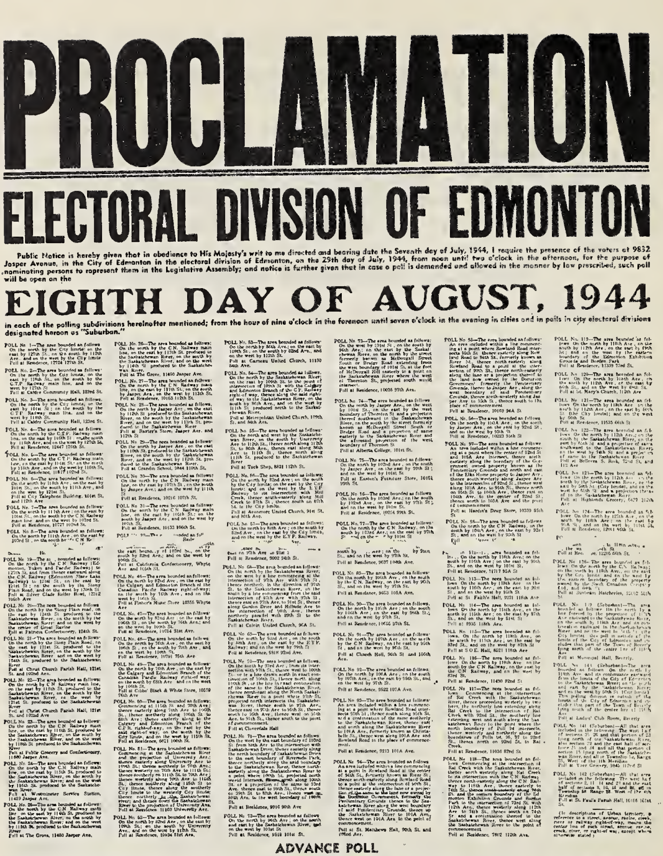
A NON-PARTY ORGANIZATION:

The statement that "political parties are an essential part of parliamentary government"—see page 27 of the text—has been challenged by the Federation of Canadian Voters, which claims that party politics cannot serve democracy. This supplementary section gives a brief outline of the proposals of this Federation and should be studied in conjunction with the sections on political parties on Pages 27-29 and 44-49 of the text.

The basic principle of this Federation is that democracy means government in accordance with the will of the people. Having stated the results they want from their government, the people should be able to insist on obedience to their wishes. Existing party politics, this Federation contends, does not serve the people. Once elected, the successful candidate is beyond the control of the electors and subject only to party organization. The Federation of Canadian Voters seeks a new organization of Canadian voters which will give the people an effective control in all spheres of government.

Units of one hundred voters are organized, and are called Electoral Hundreds. These are divided into Groups of 10. Chairmen of the 10 Groups constitute the Hundred Council. These chairmen can be changed at any time by the Group. Chairmen of Hundred Councils form a District Council in each District and chairmen of the District Councils form the Constituency Council. It is so constructed that there is effective control from the bottom up. Group members only, that is the voters themselves, can decide what results are required by the people. Methods by which these results are achieved are left to the experts. No elected representative of the people in the Dominion or Provincial legislature, or City or Municipal Council can be a member of this Federation.

This scheme could only operate successfully in a con-



PROCLAMATION

ELECTORAL DIVISION OF EDMONTON

Public Notice is hereby given that in obedience to His Majesty's writ to me directed and bearing date the Seventh day of July, 1944, I require the presence of the voters at 9832 Jasper Avenue, in the City of Edmonton in the electoral division of Edmonton, on the 29th day of July, 1944, from noon until two o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of nominating persons to represent them in the Legislative Assembly; and notice is further given that in case a poll is demanded and allowed in the manner by law prescribed, such poll will be open on the

EIGHTH DAY OF AUGUST, 1944

in each of the polling subdivisions hereinafter mentioned; from the hour of nine o'clock in the forenoon until seven o'clock in the evening in cities and in polls in city electoral divisions designated hereon as "Suburban."

ADVANCE POLL

For the convenience of electors who will be necessarily absent from their homes on election day, an advance poll will be open from the hour of two o'clock till five in the afternoon and from seven o'clock till ten o'clock in the evening of the Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the week before that of the election at 9832 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton.

And further that at 9832 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, on the 18th day of August, 1944, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon, I shall attend and announce the result of the count of the votes and declare the candidate or candidates to the number required by law having the highest number of votes duly elected.

Of which all persons are hereby required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

GOD SAVE THE KING

Given under my hand at Edmonton, in the Province of Alberta, this 15th day of July, 1944.

H. H. CRAWFORD, Returning Officer

NOTICE—Under Section 143 of the Alberta Election Act:

This Proclamation Order was posted in Edmonton at the last provincial election in Alberta. It gives the date of the election, the location of the polling stations, and the place and time of the announcement of the election results.

stituency in which the majority of the electors were members of the Federation. When this situation obtains, then the elected representative will take his instructions from the Federation and not from any political party. A strongly organized Federation could ensure that no government could remain in office that did not carry out the wishes of the people.

DOMINION-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

DEMOCRACY AND CONFEDERATION

The unit we are studying, Canadian Democracy in Action, demands a fuller and deeper realization of one of the basic principles of Dominion-Provincial relations; see pages 60-68 of the text. The following supplement will view the topic from the standpoint of democracy in relation to confederation.

Canadian opinion is divided on this somewhat contentious question of Dominion-Provincial relations. There are those in favour of increasing and expanding the duties and function of the Dominion government and there are others who are opposed to this concentration of power in a central government, at the expense of the Provincial government. The former see Canada as a land of nation-wide enterprises, with extensive inter-provincial trade, served by a unified transport system. They feel that from the standpoint of efficiency, economy and uniformity the Dominion should assume greater responsibilities in the fields of social services, relief, labour and highways and they are willing to allow Ottawa to extend its methods of obtaining revenue. Provincial governments would be relieved of much of their present responsibilities and administrative tasks, and could be greatly reduced in size.

Those holding the opposite point of view, which is prevalent in Alberta, cannot reconcile the centralization of government at Ottawa with their concept of democratic government. They contend, that, with a democratic organization, control is exercised by the individuals who make up the group, which in turn asserts its collective will on the administration; whereas with a centralized organization the individuals who make up the group submit to control by the administrators. "The accumulation of power" said Mr. Hepburn, former Premier of Ontario, "leads to autocracy. Its distribution is the safety zone of democracy." The imposition of wartime economic controls, which have invaded the normal provincial fields of action, and which tend to strengthen the central government at Ottawa, though essential while the war was in progress, should be

Vide Criminal Code
FORM 1 (Section 629)

Information to Obtain a Search Warrant

CANADA
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Insert full name, residence and occupation of Informant.

THE INFORMATION OF.. of
....in the said Province
...., taken this..................................day
of ...., in the year 19 ....., before me, the undersigned
...., Justice of the Peace in and for the said Province, who says
that ....

Describe things to be searched for and offence in respect of which search is made.

and that .....he has reasonable grounds for believing that the said goods and chattels, or some

Dwelling house, etc.

part of them, are concealed in the...
of .... of.., in the said

Add grounds of belief.

Province, ...

Name of person.

WHEREFORE .....he prays that a search warrant may be granted to..

Dwelling house, etc.

to search the said..of the said...................................
for the said goods and chattels.

SWORN before me the day and year first above mentioned, at..
in the said Province.

....
Signature of Informant

....
A Justice of the Peace in and for the Province of Alberta

THE RULE OF LAW

The above is a specimen form which must be filled in and witnessed before a Justice of the Peace, before a Warrant to Search is issued.

Vide Criminal Code
Form 2 (Section 630)

WARRANT TO SEARCH

CANADA
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

To .... of ....
(A Peace Officer in the said Province.)

WHEREAS it appears upon the oath of ....

of .... that there are reasonable grounds

for believing that ....

Describe things to be searched for and offence in respect of which search is made

are concealed in ....

at..

As the Justice shall direct

THIS IS THEREFORE to authorize and require you to enter between the hours of ....
o'clock..... m. and..........o'clock....... m. on the ....day
of ..........................A.D. 19 ......, into the said premises, and to search for
the said things, and to bring the same before me or some other Justice or Police Magistrate.

DATED at ....in the said Province, this..........................
day of.......................... in the year 19 ....

....
(A Police Magistrate or a Justice of the Peace in and for the Province of Alberta).

A G.—12.

A Warrant to Search, stating the exact nature of the search and the person authorized to make it, which must be produced before entering private property for such investigations.

removed as early as possible. At the same time it is the responsibility of the Federal government to curb inflation. From this angle of vision, Canadian unity, so vital to the harmonious and prosperous development of Canada in these post-war years, does not depend on a stronger Dominion government but rather on a social organization with a maximum of local autonomy, which allows the greatest freedom to the individual.

COURTS IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

This section will replace the section on Ontario courts on Pages 78-79.

5. THE SUPREME COURT OF ALBERTA
   (a) Appellate Division. This court hears appeals from other Alberta Courts and from (b)
   (b) Trial Division. Sittings in this division are held at specified points at least twice a year, for the trial of important cases, both civil and criminal.

6. DISTRICT COURTS

   These courts try lesser cases, both civil and criminal, such as debts or claims for damages not exceeding $600.00, and have jurisdiction in all non-contentious probate or administration matters.

7. SPECIAL COURTS

   These deal with bankruptcy cases, disputes over assessments or taxation, cases involving corruption or improper procedure in elections, etc.

8. MAGISTRATES' AND JUSTICES' COURTS

   These courts try persons accused of minor offences, petty thefts, traffic violations or violations of other Provincial Statutes. They also give a preliminary hearing to persons accused of major crimes, and if there is sufficient evidence, send them for trial to a higher court, and concurrent with the regular civil courts have jurisdiction in questions of wage claims not exceeding two months, unlawful dismissal or unlawful leaving of employment. Magistrates have jurisdiction in small debt actions where the amount involved does not exceed $100.00.

9. CORONERS' COURTS

   These conduct "inquests" to investigate cases of death where the cause or the responsibility is uncertain.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS

These include such Dominion boards as the Board of Transportation and the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, and such Provincial boards as the Workmen's Compensation Board and the Board of Public Utility Commissioners. They are not courts, properly speaking, but have power to settle a wide range of cases having to do with their spheres of authority.

11. BOARDS OF ARBITRATION

These attempt to reach settlements by compromise and arbitration, and their decision may by agreement, exclude any reference or appeal to the ordinary courts.

12. MILITARY COURTS AND BOARDS OF INQUIRY

These are conducted by the military authorities and deal with cases involving breaches of army discipline.

13. JUVENILE COURTS

When these courts are set up they have a special jurisdiction under Dominion Statute (The Juvenile Delinquents Act) and Provincial Statutes (The Child Welfare Act and The Juvenile Offenders Act).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN ALBERTA

The following information gives the nature and method of rural and urban local government in this Province. It should be studied in conjunction with the sections dealing with the same subject on pages 89-91 of the text.

RURAL GOVERNMENT

IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

This comprises all the outlying lands in the Province which are not in a sufficiently advanced state to warrant a local Council and are administered by the various Departments of the Government direct.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

Municipal districts cover the more thickly populated parts of the Province and in size they average about thirty townships and the general rule is that if they have less than thirty townships they have five Councillors and if they have more than thirty townships they have seven Councillors.

The e. The
Council or three
years, b he con-
tinuing om the
Council and holds office for one year.

All other officials are appointed by the Council but as in the smaller urban areas the Secretary-Treasurer, Auditor and Assessor must receive the approval of the Department.

URBAN GOVERNMENT

Below is a general outline of local government for the urban units in this Province.

VILLAGE

(1) Must have thirty-five occupied dwellings.
(2) Three Councillors, one elected each year for three years.
(3) The Mayor must be one of the above Councillors chosen each year by the Council.
(4) All other officials are appointed by the Council.
(5) The Secretary-Treasurer, Auditor and Assessor must be approved by the Department.

TOWN

(1) Must have 700 population.
(2) Mayor and six Councillors elected by ratepayers
(3) Mayor elected for two years.
(4) Two Councillors elected each year for three years.
(5) All other officials appointed by Council.
(6) Secretary-Treasurer, Auditor and Assessor must receive the approval of the Department.

CITY

(1) An application for a "Charter" is granted by a private Act of the Legislature and any change in the Charter must be made by an amending Act of the Legislature.
(2) Population is usually in excess of 3,000 before a Charter is granted.
(3) The Charter takes the place of The Town and Village Act.
(4) Each Charter is for that City only and is independent of any other City.

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(5) Usually eight or ten Councillors or Aldermen, half of whom are elected each year for a term of two years.

(6) The Mayor of a City is elected for either one or two years.

(7) All other officials are appointed by the Council.

PAYING OUR WAY

There is in Alberta a large body of opinion which supports the theory that the existing taxation methods are unnecessary and that "the old saying that two things are inescapable—death and taxes" needs revision. This modern theory on "paying our way" should be studied in conjunction with Chapter VIII of the text, which delineates the accepted orthodox method of taxation.

Those who believe in the theory of Social Credit see Canada as a land of plenty, richly endowed with natural resources, capable of supplying her small population of approximately 12 million, with a high standard of living, yet unable to do so because her present financial system allows the country to become burdened with debt and the citizens to be afflicted with taxation while denying them the necessary purchasing power to obtain those goods and services which are abundant.

Money is issued in the form of coins, bills and bank credit. This bank credit does not exist in any tangible form, but as figures in the ledgers of the banking institutions, which are transferred from one account to another by means of cheques. More than 90% of all money transactions are carried out by means of this bank credit. Thus it is contended that the chartered banks, a private monopoly, have virtual control over the monetary system of the country, and through it, over production, distribution and the entire economy. Since money is the hub of our economic life, the control over the issue and withdrawal of money is a sovereign power, which in a democracy should be vested in the people. For, democracy in the fullest sense of the term, cannot operate in a world in which the entire financial system is controlled, for the most part, by private institutions. In other words, private monopoly must be replaced by public control of our monetary policy so that it will operate for the benefit of all the people to give them the economic results they want. The Social Credit theory recommends that a competent national monetary authority, operating in conjunction with the Bank of Canada, and responsible to the people through parliament, should exercise full and effective control over the operation of the monetary system including the issue and withdrawal of all currency and credit. The people should at all times possess purchasing power equivalent to the total prices of goods for sale on the market. This purchasing power should be distributed in such a manner that it gives the individual citizen adequate security with the maximum freedom of action, and ensures an equitable distribution of the national production.

Instead of the existing methods of taxation, all money required for Federal Government services should be issued on the instructions of parliament, without increasing the national debt, and federal taxation should be used primarily for the purpose of withdrawing surplus purchasing power, if any, to prevent inflation. By financing public expenditure free of interest, taxation could be drastically reduced.

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